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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 38th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands)

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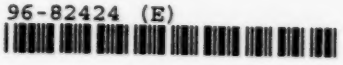

The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 96: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued)

(g) CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/51/L.22 and L.34)

Draft resolutions on the report of the World Commission on Culture and Development (A/C.2/51/L.22 and L.34)

1. Mr. DJABBARY (Islamic Republic of Iran), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.34, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.22, and recommended its adoption by consensus.

2. Ms. KELLEY (Secretary of the Committee), replying to a question from Mr. O'CONNELL (Ireland), said that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

3. Ms. DENGO (Costa Rica), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that Australia, Canada, Norway and Ukraine would have the original draft resolution.

4. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.34 was adopted.

5. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.22 was withdrawn.

AGENDA ITEM 97: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (continued)

(d) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOME OF THE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (continued) (A/C.2/51/L.7 and L.35)

Draft resolutions on the implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/C.2/51/L.7 and L.35)

6. Mr. DJABBARY (Islamic Republic of Iran), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.35, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.7, and recommended its adoption by consensus.

7. Mr. CHOUNARD (Canada) said that his delegation would have wished to sponsor the original draft resolution. He thanked the representative of Papua New Guinea for his remarkable work as coordinator of the Group of 77 and China.

8. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.35 was adopted.

9. Mr. DELANEY (Papua New Guinea), speaking as coordinator of the Group of 77 and China, welcomed the adoption of the resolution and said that his delegation remained committed to following up the Barbados Programme of Action and would

participate actively in the preparations for the comprehensive review of the Programme of Action scheduled for 1999. While recognizing that the bulk of the effort must be made by small island developing States themselves he said that the international community should bolster the efforts of those countries. In that connection, his delegation looked forward to holding consultations with interested delegations on the tasks that lay ahead.

10. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.7 was withdrawn.

(e) PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MANKIND (continued) (A/C.2/51/L.6 and L.33)

Draft resolution on protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind (A/C.2/51/L.6 and L.33)

11. Mr. DJABBARY (Islamic Republic of Iran), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.33, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.6, and recommended its adoption by consensus.

12. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.33 was adopted.

13. Mr. RONNEBERG (Marshall Islands), speaking as coordinator of the Group of 77 and China, thanked the delegations which had participated in informal consultations and the members of the Alliance of Small Island States for their efforts to achieve a consensus. His own delegation would have preferred much stronger language on that urgent and vital issue and it looked forward to continued negotiations in Geneva as called for in the Geneva Declaration.

14. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.6 was withdrawn.

AGENDA ITEM 99: TRAINING AND RESEARCH (continued)

(a) UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH (continued) (A/C.2/51/L.27/Rev.1)

Draft resolution on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (A/C.2/51/L.27/Rev.1)

15. Mr. BA (Senegal), Mrs. LOPES da ROSA (Guinea-Bissau), Mr. TOURE (Mali), Mr. GONZALEZ (Chile), Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria), Mr. AVALLE (Argentina), Mr. NDIKUMANA (Burundi), Mr. YOSHINO (Japan) and Mrs. MAIKARFI (Niger) said that their delegations wished to become sponsors of the draft resolution.

16. Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria), Vice-Chairman, suggested that, since the Joint Inspection Unit was not part of the United Nations Secretariat, it might be more appropriate to reword the first line of paragraph 7 so as to have the Secretary-General invite the Unit to prepare a study.

17. Ms. KELLEY (Secretary of the Committee), responding to a question from Mr. PEDROSO (Cuba) said that it would be perfectly appropriate to use the word

"invite"; the Secretary-General often suggested topics for studies to the Joint Inspection Unit.

18. Ms. RADUCHOWSKA-BROCHWICZ (Poland) pointed out that according to article 9 of the Statute of the Joint Inspection Unit, competent organs of the organizations could submit requests directly to the Unit. She therefore proposed that paragraph 7 should be reworded as follows: "Requests the Joint Inspection Unit, in close cooperation with the Institute and relevant United Nations bodies, to prepare a study, as recommended by it in its report, ...". She would welcome comments from a representative of the Joint Inspection Unit.

19. Mr. ABRASZEWSKI (Joint Inspection Unit) said that, in accordance with its Statute, the Joint Inspection Unit was a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and of the legislative bodies of other participating organizations. In the past, when a legislative organ, a Main Committee of the General Assembly or the plenary Assembly had wished the Unit to prepare a report, the request had been made directly to the Unit. Article 9 of the Statute, which had been mentioned by the representative of Poland, differentiated between requests of the competent organs of the organizations and suggestions received from the executive heads of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system. Since the Joint Inspection Unit was directly responsible to Member States, the request should be made directly in order to ensure that it was accorded top priority and that the Unit's programme of work for 1996-1997 was adjusted accordingly.

20. Mr. WAHAB (Pakistan), noting that the Secretary of the Committee and the representative of the Joint Inspection Unit had both confirmed that it was possible for the Secretariat to invite the Unit to do a study, said that as a sponsor of the draft resolution, his delegation would appreciate having additional time in which to consider the proposed change.

21. Mr. ALIOU (Cameroon) agreed that paragraph 7 should be reworded to request the study directly from the Joint Inspection Unit. He believed that a consensus could be reached if additional time was granted for consultations.

The meeting was suspended at 4 p.m. and resumed at 5 p.m.

22. The CHAIRMAN read out the text of the proposed amendment to paragraph 7 which had been worked out in the informal consultations, as follows: "Also requests the Joint Inspection Unit, in close cooperation with the Institute and relevant United Nations bodies, to prepare a study ...".

23. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.27/Rev.1, as orally amended, was adopted.

(b) UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY (continued) (A/C.2/51/L.3 and L.20)

Draft resolutions on the United Nations University (A/C.2/51/L.3 and L.20)

24. Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.20, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.3, and recommended its adoption by consensus.

25. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.20 was adopted.

26. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.3 was withdrawn.

The meeting was suspended at 5.05 p.m. and resumed at 5.25 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 94: MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS (continued)

(a) EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/51/L.24/Rev.1)

Draft resolution on enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries (A/C.2/51/L.24/Rev.1)

27. Mr. CABACTULAN (Philippines) pointed out that in the fifth line of the first preambular paragraph the text following the word "other" should be deleted and replaced by the following: "the results, agreed, of all major United Nations conferences and summits held since the beginning of the 1990s".

28. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.24/Rev.1, as orally amended, was adopted.

29. Mr. ACUÑA (Costa Rica), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and referring to paragraph 3, said that it was the Group's understanding that the possibility would be left open of exploring new ways to facilitate access by heavily indebted poor countries to the Initiative just approved. It was of the utmost importance that the effort by the international community should remain open, positive and constructive.

30. With regard to paragraph 7, it was the Group's und rstanding that the resources allocated to the Initiative would be new and additional resources, and would not be allocated to the detriment of current development activities.

31. Ms. BROWNE (Ireland), speaking on behalf of the European Union in explanation of position, said that, in joining consensus on that draft resolution, the European Union did not intend to go beyond or to reinterpret decisions and commitments made by its Governments recently in Washington. The communiqué issued on 30 September 1996 by the Development Committee of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank reflected the position of its Governments on the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative.

32. Mr. WINNICK (United States of America), referring to the tenth preambular paragraph and to paragraphs 2 and 19, said that his delegation saw sustained economic growth within the context of sustainable development.

33. Mr. ALIOU (Cameroon) expressed the hope that the spirit of consensus which had prevailed during the adoption of the draft resolution would likewise prevail during its implementation.

DRAFT BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SECOND COMMITTEE FOR 1997-1998 (A/C.2/51/L.40)

34. Mr. BUNCH (Department of Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development) drew attention to a number of editorial changes in the draft biennial programme of work (A/C.2/51/L.40).

35. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should adopt the draft biennial programme of work for 1997-1998, as orally revised.

36. It was so decided.

ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING SPONSORSHIP OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

37. The CHAIRMAN announced that Belarus had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.16/Rev.1 submitted under agenda item 94 (c).

COMPLETION OF THE COMMITTEE'S WORK

38. After an exchange of courtesies in which Mr. ACUÑA (Costa Rica), on behalf of all the members of the Committee, Mrs. RADUCHOWSKA-BROCHWICZ, on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States, and Mr. WINNICK (United States of America) participated, the CHAIRMAN declared that the Committee had completed its work for the fifty-first session.

The meeting rose at 6.25 p.m.